

REFERENCE

WYNTER-BLYTH, M.A. (1957): Butterflies of the Indian Region. Bombay Natural History Society, Bombay.

34. NEW LARVAL FOOD PLANT OF THE GRASS DEMON
UDASPES FOLUS CRAMER AND THE RESTRICTED DEMON
NOTOCRYPTA CURVIFASCIA FELDER & FELDER, LEPIDOPTERA: HESPERIIDAE

While studying the butterfly fauna near the Botanical Garden of the Government College Campus, Madappally, Vatakara, Kerala, in October-November 1999 and August-October 2000, I recorded a new larval food plant for the larvae of the Grass Demon *Udaspes folus* Cram. and Restricted Demon *Notocrypta curvifascia* Felder & Felder, Lepidoptera.

Udaspes folus and *Notocrypta curvifascia* larvae were found to feed on the leaves of *Alpinia calcarata* Rosc. (Zingiberaceae). The recorded food plants of Grass Demon are *Curcuma domestica*, *C. aromatica*, *C. amada*, *C. caesia*, *C. zedoaria*, *C. decipiens*, *C. angustifolia*, *Zingiber officinale*, *Hedychium coronarium*, *Elettaria cardamomum*, *Aframomum melegueta* (all Zingiberaceae), *Maranta arundinacea* (Marantaceae) and *Tigridia pavonia* (Iridaceae) Seitz (in Sevastopulo, 1973) noted *Fagraea racemosa* (Loganiaceae) and Kershaw (in Abraham *et al*, 1975) noted *Alpinia nutans* Rosc., (in Hong Kong) as the food plant of the Grass Demon. According to Mackinnon (in Wynter-Blyth 1957), it also feeds on grasses.

Restricted Demon larva has been recorded to feed on *Kaempferia rotunda*, *Zingiber purpureum* (= *Z. cassumunar*) and *Curcuma decipiens* (all Zingiberaceae). Wynter-Blyth (1957) does not mention *Alpinia calcarata* Rosc., occurrence and successful rearing of Grass Demon *Udaspes folus* Cram., and Restricted Demon *Notocrypta curvifascia* Felder & Felder on *Alpinia calcarata* confirms it as a new larval food plant for both the species.

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35. BIODIVERSITY OF MANTIDS, INSECTA: MANTODEA,
IN PUNE (WESTERN GHATS) WITH NOTES
ON OTHER REGIONS OF MAHARASHTRA

Accelerating rates of biodiversity loss and signing of international agreements, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and

Agenda 21, have called for the world's biodiversity to be inventoried and monitored. Such inventories provide the basic information